

B A R N A R D C A S T L E U R B A N D I S T R I C T
C O U N C I L .

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M e d i c a l O f f i c e r o f H e a l t h

for the year

1 9 6 8 .



A. S. M. WILSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

BARNARD CASTLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
Woodleigh,
Barnard Castle.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Browne and Gentlemen,

I now submit to you my Annual Report for 1968.

The Vital Statistics of the district are generally satisfactory.

I would again thank Members of the Council for suggestions and help throughout the year, during which I continued to enjoy the advice and co-operation of the family doctors in the District.

I am indebted to Dr. Coombs for his assistance in compiling this Report and to Mr. Dixon for preparing Section II.

Your obedient Servant,

A. S. M. WILSON.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health (part-time):

A. S. M. WILSON, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

N. C. COOMBS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Public Health Inspector and Surveyor:

EDGAR DIXON, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

S E C T I O N I

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (Acreage)	559
Population (Registrar General's Estimated Figure mid-year 1968)	5,560
Sum represented by a penny rate	£579. 1. 10.
Rateable Value as at 1. 4. 68	£152,430. 0. 0.

Main Local Industries

Glaxo Laboratories Limited employed 829 people during 1968, and are concerned with the manufacture of antibiotics and vitamins by fermentation processes, together with the handling of antibiotics in bulk filling, packing and despatch thereof. This is the main industry and employment in the district.

Other industrial establishments in the district are concerned with engineering and ironfounding, the manufacture of gloves, and the manufacture of concrete and artificial stone products and egg and poultry packing.

Climatic Conditions

Table showing annual rainfall in inches
Compiled from figures received from the Bowes Museum

	<u>1966</u> <u>Inches</u>	<u>1967</u> <u>Inches</u>	<u>1968</u> <u>Inches</u>
January	2.14	0.95	1.69
February	5.28	4.72	2.18
March	.82	1.96	3.76
April	4.88	1.84	1.88
May	2.54	5.01	2.43
June	2.73	1.06	2.35
July	1.74	2.98	3.68
August	4.36	3.72	1.30
September	1.68	2.89	4.53
October	4.37	5.72	3.39
November	2.56	2.76	2.65
December	3.11	1.50	3.50
	<u>36.21</u>	<u>35.11</u>	<u>33.34</u>

Average Rainfall
5 years 1964 - 1968

33.34	1968
35.11	1967
36.21	1966
35.34	1965
22.09	1964

	Males			Females		
	Legit.	Illegit.	Total	Legit.	Illegit.	Total
Live Births	55	2	57	40	3	43
Still Births	-	-	-	-	1	1
Deaths of Infants						
Under 1 year of age	2	-	2	-	-	-
Under 4 weeks of age	2	-	2	-	-	-
Under 1 week of age	2	-	2	-	-	-

		Male	Female	Total
A.	All causes of death	57	37	94
B.	Classified Main Causes:			
1.	Cardio-Vascular:-			
(a)	Vascular lesions of the brain	8	7	15
(b)	Coronary disease - angina	17	5	22
(c)	Other heart disease	1	3	4
(d)	Other circulatory diseases	3	8	11
(e)	Hypertensive disease	-	2	2
	Totals	29	25	54
2.	Chest Diseases:-			
(a)	Pneumonia	1	1	2
(b)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	8	-	8
	Totals	9	1	10
3.	Cancer (Malignant Neoplasms)	13	4	17
4.	Genito-urinary diseases	1	1	2
5.	Gastro-intestinal diseases	-	2	2
6.	Accidents	-	2	2
7.	Suicide	-	1	1
8.	Other diseases	5	1	6
		6	7	13

The main causes of death in the district during the year were diseases of the heart and circulatory system 54, diseases of the respiratory system 10, and cancer 17.

Live-birth Rate - 18.00 per 1,000 home population.

Adjusted Rate - 19.4 per 1,000 home population.

Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 16.9 per 1,000 home population.

Still-birth Rate - 10 per 1,000 total births.

Rate for England and Wales - 14.00 per 1,000 total births.

Death-rate - 16.9 per 1,000 home population.

Adjusted Rate - 13.5 per 1,000 home population.

Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 11.9 per 1,000 home population.

Deaths of Infants.

Under 1 year of age - 20 per 1,000 live-births.

Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 18 per 1,000 live-births.

Perinatal Mortality - 30 per 1,000 total births.

Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 25 per 1,000 total births.

Year	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Population	5200	5260	5290	5280	5290	5420	5410	5360	5410	5500
Births	100	99	85	105	96	115	101	80	84	100

The above table shows live-births per year since 1959 together with the estimated populations for each year.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

A. Hospitals

The Richardson Hospital continues to be a valuable asset to the community. The improvements to Bede Hospital are nearly complete and the wards for women are in use. It is administered jointly with the Richardson Hospital.

B. Laboratories

Public Health Laboratories are available at Northallerton and Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Facilities are also provided at Bishop Auckland General Hospital, Pathological Department for urgent bacteriological examinations.

C. County Council Services

In his quarterly reports to the Area Health Sub-Committee the County Medical Officer gives the following information of Services in the Area.

1. Ambulance Facilities

Barnard Castle urban and rural districts are served by two ambulance depots, two ambulances and four driver-attendants.

	<u>Stretcher cases</u>	<u>Sitting cases</u>	<u>Total cases</u>	<u>Mileage</u>
1964	628	4,959	5,587	67,544
1965	623	5,551	6,174	63,776
1966	575	5,452	6,027	66,866
1967	553	6,055	6,608	66,841
1968	653	5,750	6,403	69,723

In addition to the above, patients residing in the urban and rural districts are also conveyed by vehicles from neighbouring depots and by the Darlington Ambulance Service, as occasion demands. Records are not maintained in sanitary district order and information regarding these cases cannot be conveniently supplied.

2. Home Nursing and Midwifery Services

Staff: 6 District Nurse Midwives.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone No.</u>
Mrs. L. Atkinson	4, Victoria Terrace, Middleton-in-Teesdale.	Middleton-in-Teesdale 308
Miss L.H. Dodd	4, Montgomery Road, Barnard Castle.	Barnard Castle 2149.
Miss L.M. Morton	3, Harmire Road, Barnard Castle.	Barnard Castle 3156.
Mrs. M.C. Pattison	45, Coronation Gardens, Staindrop.	Staindrop 316.
Miss E. Shenton	13, Eden Crest, Gainford.	Gainford 247.
Mrs. V.M. Slack	Garden House, Copley, Butterknowle.	Cockfield 254.

These District Nurse Midwives practice domiciliary midwifery and carry out general home nursing as required.

3. Health Visiting

The number of health visitors in the area at the end of 1968 was three.

Domiciliary Visits:

Total number of visits paid	5,022
1. Maternity and child welfare	3,696
2. Tuberculosis	69
3. General Health	134
4. Mentally subnormal	20
5. School	218
6. Aged people	280

Summary:

Ineffective visits	605
Total number of visits	5,022
Number of effective visits	4,417
Time (as days) spent on visits (routine, other and ineffective)	312
Average daily number of effective visits per health visitor	14

Clinic, etc., work:

Time (as days) spent	
(a) at maternity and child welfare centres	159
(b) at chest clinics	-
(c) at school head to head inspections and school clinics	11
(d) at school medical inspections and special schools	6

Cases reported to the district medical officer of health:

Overcrowding	-
Sanitary defects	-

4. Domestic Help Service

Assistance is provided in the home when necessary on account of old age, home confinement or illness.

5. Child Welfare Centres

A Baby Clinic and Antenatal Clinic are provided by the family doctors in the town, with a health visitor and district nurses in attendance.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Protection against poliomyelitis, smallpox, diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus is available from family doctors, child welfare centres and at school.

Polio protection is available up to the age of 40 and to certain priority groups over that age. The vaccine may be had either by injection or by mouth.

During 1968 the immunisation of school entrants was continued. This work was carried out within the schools on a sessional basis, and is reflected in the general immunisation statistics for the area.

There is always room for improvement in the uptake of protection against infection - particularly against poliomyelitis. Parents of pre-school children should make a special effort to take advantage of the protection so readily available for these children, particularly at this time of the year.

Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus
 Combined Urban/Rural District).

Primary

	Year of Birth					Others under 16	Total
	1968	1967	1966	1965	1961-64		
Poliomyelitis	25	134	21	5	45	20	250
Diphtheria	44	104	13	2	13	28	204
Whooping Cough	44	99	12	2	1	1	159
Tetanus	44	104	16	2	13	58	237

Reinforcing Doses

	Year of Birth					Others under 16	Total
	1968	1967	1966	1965	1961-64		
Poliomyelitis	-	2	2	2	263	45	314
Diphtheria	-	17	33	9	198	12	269
Whooping Cough	-	15	24	4	30	3	76
Tetanus	-	18	34	9	197	46	304

Smallpox

Primary

Under 1	1 Year	2-4 Years	5-15 Years	Total
4	41	32	13	90

Re-Vaccination

2-4 Years	5-15 Years	Total
1	2	3

The statistics for immunisation and vaccination in the Barnard Castle Area are not as satisfactory as they might be as the following table shows.

Vaccination and Immunisation of Children up to 31st December, 1968

Children Born in 1967 and Immunised or Vaccinated at any time

	Barnard Castle Area	Administrative County	England & Wales
Diphtheria	58%	72%	78%
Whooping Cough	56%	71%	76%
Tetanus	58%	73%	-%
Poliomyelitis	53%	66%	74%
Smallpox	14%	32%	38%

B. C. G. Vaccination

During 1968 protection against tuberculosis continued to be offered in accordance with County Council policy to all school children aged 11 years and over.

A skin test is carried out first to see whether or not a child has developed a degree of natural immunity. A negative reading indicates the need for protection, and vaccination is then carried out.

The following figures show the work carried out during 1968.

School	Parental Consents	At skin testing		At reading			At Vaccination	
		Tested	Absent	Positive	Negative	Absent	Vac- cinated	Not Vac- cinated
B.C. Boys	78	77	1	13	63	1	53	10
Baliol	111	102	9	18	70	14	66	4
Teesdale	58	56	2	9	44	3	40	4

Children who are absent, or not vaccinated for such medical reasons as intercurrent infection, skin conditions, etc., are usually taken up at subsequent sessions.

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during recent years

	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Scarlet Fever	10	2	1	1	2
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	76	32	22	47	164
Whooping Cough	8	-	-	12	27
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	30	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	2	-	-	-
Meningitis	-	-	-	-	1

Tuberculosis

During 1968 two cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified. There were no deaths attributable to tuberculosis during the year.

SECTION II.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supply

The Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board provide a satisfactory water supply in quantity and quality to the whole of the urban area. The supply is direct from the water mains to the water consumer.

Closet Accommodation

There are four properties with pail privies in the Council's area. These four properties are in such a position that they cannot be drained into the Council's sewers. All other properties have water closets.

Improvement Grants - Housing Act 1949 - 64.

	<u>Discretionary</u>	<u>Standard</u>	<u>Total</u>
Applications submitted to the local authority during 1968	4	8	12
Applications refused during 1968	-	-	-
Total number of applications approved since the inception of scheme	92	49	141
Total number of grants paid since the inception of scheme	82	41	123

New Dwellings during 1968

No new dwellings were completed during the year. This is the first time since 1945 that this has occurred.

Housing Units Lost during the Year

Three dwellings in Dunelm Square were taken out of use and 16 dwellings in Dunelm Square were demolished to make room for the erection of a Flatlets scheme.

Housing by the Council

One house in a clearance area was vacant and still standing at the end of the year. A house, subject of a demolition order, was demolished by the Council's workmen.

Amended plans for the redevelopment of Dunelm Square site were considered by the Council and received Planning Consent. These plans showed 7 (4 person) 3 bedroom houses with garages, a 34 unit flatlet scheme, (16 two person and 18 one person flatlets) and a Warden's house.

Callowflats Allotments behind Zetland Road

This land, purchased by the North Eastern Housing Association, is earmarked for future housing, but development has been deferred.

Applications for Council Houses

The number of applications on the Council's list at the end of the year was 136, compared with 99 at the end of 1967.

Provision of Dwellings by the Local Authority

	Owners	Situation	No. of Bedrooms				
			1	2	3	4	Total
Pre 1939	Barnard Castle U.D.C.	Dunelm Square	-	1	-	-	1
	North Eastern Housing Association Limited }	Dunelm Square	10	-	-	-	10
		Dawson Road	-	22	14	8	44
		TOTAL PRE 1939	10	23	14	8	55
Post 1939	Barnard Castle U.D.C.	Victoria Road	-	-	12	-	12
	North Eastern Housing Association Limited }	Zetland Road Estate	-	20	28	6	54
		Montalbo Road Estate	8	-	82	12	102
		Zetland Road Estate	6	20	13	-	39
		Green Lane Site	8	76	80	12	176
		The Bank Redevelopment	-	1	5	1	7
		Thorngate "	4	2	5	-	11
		Bridgegate "	-	22	32	-	54
		Galgate "	3	1	-	-	4
		Churchill Road	-	-	87	-	87
		TOTAL POST 1939	29	142	344	31	546
		TOTAL HOUSES	39	165	358	39	601

Factories and Workshops

One notification was received from the Factory Inspector and was remedied during the year.

Two outworkers finishing gloves are employed in the Urban District. The premises are satisfactory.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 269.

The licence to use a temporary dwelling on the Prospect Place Caravan Site was renewed during the year. There is piped water, W.C. and drainage within 4 yards of this dwelling.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

Prospect Place Caravan Site, Staindrop Road, Barnard Castle.

This is a residential site for 17 caravans and has hard standings, water supply, dustbins, store and W.C. with drainage connected to the Council's sewer. The site is serviced by a tarmacadam road, has fire points and a communal wash house. It is used to capacity and is fairly satisfactory.

Red Well Inn, Harmire Road, Barnard Castle

One caravan in permanent occupation has a licence held by the owner of the site.

The remainder of the site is laid out for 35 holiday caravans for occupation between 1st March and 31st October each year. There are communal toilets, washing facilities and refuse storage bins. Water supply is provided to stand pipes at various points on the site and drainage is to a septic tank in the adjoining field.

Rodent Control

Two Council, 4 business and 20 domestic properties were treated for the extermination of rodents during the year.

Slaughterhouses

The four slaughterhouses in the area at present holding a licence are:

1. Vere Road, Barnard Castle	Mr. W. H. Foster
2. Rear of 54, Galgate, Barnard Castle	Messrs. W. Peat Ltd.
3. Birch Road, Barnard Castle	Mr. F. A. Youngs
4. Rear of 46, The Bank, Barnard Castle	Mr. R. C. Jackson

Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963

In September, 1963, the Council made reciprocal arrangements with the Barnard Castle Rural District Council for the maintenance of full meat inspection during periods of holiday and sickness of the Inspector.

More than half of the slaughtering is done by part-time slaughtermen after their normal working hours.

Animals Slaughtered

The following table shows the animals killed, inspected and found unfit for human consumption at the slaughterhouses during the year ending 31st December, 1968:

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	803	4	50	2695	946
Number inspected	803	4	50	2695	946
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	4	3	1
Part of carcase or organ condemned	242	-	-	112	222
% of number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	30.14	-	8.0	4.27	23.57
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Part of carcase or organ condemned	-	-	-	-	1
% of number inspected affected with T.B.	-	-	-	-	0.1
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Submitted for refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-
Generalized and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Milk Supplies

Brucella Abortus

Only one milk producer has his premises in the Urban District and his milk goes to the Milk Marketing Board for Pasteurisation.

The County Health Inspector does raw milk sampling for Brucella Abortus.

Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963.

No egg pasteurisation plants are situated in the area.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

The following is a list of food premises in the district.

Grocers	35
Butchers	9
Fish Shops	6
Confectioners	14
Cafes	15
Licensed Premises	20
	—
	99
	—

Washing facilities for personal use are provided in all premises and where necessary washing facilities for equipment.

Poultry Inspection

Two poultry processing premises are operating within the district.

Infrequent visits are made to these premises. No ducks or broilers are dressed. The smaller unit dresses approximately 10,000 hens per year. The larger unit dresses about 175,000 hens, 2,000 turkeys and 2,500 chickens; the turkeys and chickens mainly for the Christmas trade.

Causes of Death at different periods of life
during 1968 in the Urban District of Barnard Castle.

Cause of Death	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	Age in Years							
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-
Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Meningococcal Infection	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	M	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1
Mental Disorders	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases of Nervous System etc.	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hypertensive Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	4
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Other Forms of Heart Disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Cerebrovascular Disease	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Pneumonia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peptic Ulcer	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Other Accidents	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Suicide and Self- Inflicted Injuries	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES		M 57	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	7	16
		F 37	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	3	10
												27
												21

